

MINUTES OF THE  
FREMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (EDAC)  
THURSDAY, July 9, 2015, 8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.  
ARDENWOOD CONFERENCE ROOM  
3300 CAPITOL AVENUE, BUILDING A

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**            The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:**    Alternate Goldsmith for Bonior, Commissioners Cardenas, Chang,  
Alternate Hatton for Cox, Drury, Gaeta, Alternate Koan for Lee, Tran

**Commissioners Absent:**    Duarte

**Staff Present:**                Kelly Kline, Economic Development Director  
Christina Briggs, Economic Development Manager  
Jennifer Chen, Economic Development Coordinator  
Kim Marshall, Economic Development Specialist

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The regular minutes of May 7, 2015 were approved. Cardenas 1<sup>st</sup>/Tran 2<sup>nd</sup>, all ayes

4. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Sustainability Coordinator Rachel DiFranco shared the City's strategy for winning the Georgetown Energy Prize. Fremont is one of 50 communities competing for a \$5 million prize recognizing the most sustainable community. As part of this initiative, the City has partnered with Vote Solar to pool individual residents together to generate greater savings on solar installations. This program will start August 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information about this program, go to [www.mygroupenergy.com/eastbaysunshares](http://www.mygroupenergy.com/eastbaysunshares).

5. **COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING SECTORS:**

Industrial/Manufacturing

The Warm Springs/South Fremont BART station is scheduled to open in December. In anticipation of the opening, the City is working with a shuttle consultant to engage businesses in the Innovation District to

explore commute options including a shuttle service.

#### Real Estate Activity

Tesla has leased the last former Solyndra building at 901 Page. TE Connectivity (500 employees) has signed a lease in Fremont. The Crossings celebrated a Ribbon Cutting which signals the official opening of Fremont Boulevard to Dixon Landing Road.

The new Fremont chapter of Startup Grind will hold its first meeting this fall at Devry University. Sponsorship Opportunities are available.

#### Downtown

Phase 1 of the Capitol Avenue improvements will be completed in fall 2015.

#### Commercial/Retail

The next district walkabout will be in the Irvington District during August/September.

#### Chamber of Commerce

Festival of the Arts will be held the first weekend in August. The Chamber welcomes event volunteers.

### **6. COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON CORPORATE SITE VISITS**

There were seven visits: Bay Area Traffic Solutions, Mobile Mini, Genmark Automation, Oldcastle BuildingEnvelope, Optoplex, Swagelok, and Sonic Manufacturing.

### **7. COMMISSIONER/STAFF REPORT ON SVEDA, EAST BAY EDA, OTHER MEETINGS**

The *Business of Fremont* event will be held at Thermo Fisher on August 5<sup>th</sup>. In partnership with the Silicon Valley Business Journal, this event will include panelists from real estate/development as well as industry leaders including Seagate, Thermo Fisher, and Tesla to discuss their experiences in Fremont.

### **8. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

#### **8.1 OpenCounter Demonstration**

Peter Koht is the Founder of OpenCounter. He is a former City of Santa Cruz employee who worked in Planning/Economic Development. He noticed that small businesses had to contend

with red tape in so many different areas – City, County, State, and Federal in order to open a business. The example he gave showed 21 different permits to open a restaurant.

In collaboration with Code for America, a new, electronic “onboarding” process was created aimed at existing or prospective small businesses. OpenCounter takes several factors into account - location of business, type of business, and types of building improvements, and then compiles the information into one easily accessible place that can be utilized 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Questions are asked up front so that business owners get a complete picture of the permits and fees required to open a business.

OpenCounner will be available by September.

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next meeting will be September 3
- New Industrial Zoning Ordinance and Priority Industrial Areas

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.